

HAMNET BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER 2001 COMPILED AND PREPARED BY FRANCOIS - ZS6BUU

IN THE BULLETIN TODAY Silent Key Bulletins around the country Outstanding Questionnaires New Emergency call centre for Johannesburg Simulated Emergency Contest results. West Rand Cycle Road Race Database - C.D. Distribution News from around the country

SILENT KEY

It is with regret we announce the passing of Old Man Jack Moolman ZS2KU. Jack passed away on Sunday 9 September. Since the early seventies he was a member of the P. E. Branch, Algoa Branch and PEARS. A Hamnet stalwart from 1977, quiet & reliable and a member of the Eastern Cape Hamnet Committee from 1981 till ill health a few years ago. To his family, our sincere condolences.

HAMNET BULLETINS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Sunday morning kicks off with Hamnet KZN at 07H15 on their local VHF repeaters with a relay on 7.070Mhz by Wally ZS5WP.

Followed with the national Bulletin on 10,130Mhz in the 30M band with a relay on 7.070Mhz by Martin ZS6MSG. In Gauteng, 145,700Mhz is also used for a local transmission. The time is 16:30 local - until propagation improves when it will revert to 17H00.

Next we have Gauteng North. Their bulletin runs from 18H00 local on 145.725Mhz with a relay on 3,650MHz or 7.090MHz by Rudie ZS6DX.

North West Province have a club bulletin on Mondays, which includes a Hamnet segment at 19H00 local on 3,750Mhz in the 80M band as well as their local repeater on 145.737.5Mhz.

Last but not least is Hamnet Western Cape Province with a bulletin on Wednesdays at 20H30 local on 3,674 relayed by Matt ZS1MJJ in the 80M band and on their local repeaters, 145:625Mhz, 145:700Mhz, 145:750Mhz and various other links.

Whatever you missed please access the S.A.R.L. Website under the heading "Hamnet News - regularly updated", for the latest news or if you are on Packet, it will have been sent to you thanks to Rudie ZS6DX.

OUTSTANDING QUESTIONNAIRE'S

PLEASE LET ME HAVE THE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONNAIRES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THIS IS DELAYING THE ISSUING OF THE NEW I. D. CARD FOR HAMNET MEMBERS. YOU MAY RECALL, YOUR OFFICIAL BAR CODED I. D. NUMBER NOW FORMS PART OF THE NEW CARD AND WE NEED THAT NUMBER BEFORE WE CAN START ISSUING NEW HAMNET I. D. CARDS.

The Questionnaire has also undergone a metamorphosis. It now acts as an Application Form as it contains all the necessary information we need to accurately record information on our Hamnet Database.

NEW EMERGENCY CALL CENTRE FOR JOHANNESBURG

The City of Johannesburg's state-of-the-art one-stop emergency call center will officially be opened on 1 December.

Based in Roodepoort, the launch date was set for May but major flaws in the project caused a delay.

A high level team, with specific call centre experience, was called in, and in June the completion of the project received top priority.

The technical aspects of the project are almost complete and operators are undergoing multi-disciplinary training from how to resuscitate a patient over the phone to how to take a call and deal with difficult customers.

This is a 24-hour one-stop centre and can deal with anything from account enquiries to any type of emergency. The centre will have in excess of 60 manual attendant positions with 240 incoming lines with the capacity to increase with demand.

There is also a cross reference with Municipal Databases.

Does this remind you of 911 or Big Brother?

HAMNET SIMULATED EMERGENCY CONTEST RESULTS

Contest date was 8 April 2001.

Congratulations to the following contestants who participated in the recent Hamnet Simulated Contest. The winners in the various categories are:

Category A. Single Operator Stationery Mobile: Winner: ZS4BS/p - 1278 points
Second: ZS2U/p - 1116 points Third: ZS5VE/p - 852 points

Category B. Single Operator Portable: ZS6XT/p4 - 2247 points

Category C. Multi-Operator Portable: Winner: ZS4BHF/p - 1728 points
Second: ZS6DX/p - 1344 points Third: ZS6RPJ/p - 552 points Fourth: Z21PES/p - 512 points

Category D. Single Operator Base Station: Winner: ZS5WI - 1274 points
Second: ZS6BUU - 952 points Third: ZS5WP - 570 points Fourth: ZS1B - 516 points

The overall impression is that the contest was most enjoyable, yet only twelve logs were received. There were a total of thirty contestants and about twice that many giving points. Willie, ZS5WI sums it up well. He says, "Enjoyable contest. Deserved more support". It was great to receive an entry from Zimbabwe, Z21KJ/R operating a portable station. There appears to be uncertainty about some categories so here is clarification.

Single Operator, Stationery Mobile.

This category is for contestants who wish to use their normal h.f. mobile equipment. They must however operate from one site only for the duration of the contest. Mobile operators may, however, give points to contestants whether they are mobile or stationary at one or more sites. They must state which area they are operating from for scoring purposes.

SINGLE OPERATOR BASE STATION

This category is for contestants who are unable to operate a portable station or do not wish to. They would then operate from their home station. They may, however, operate from some other fixed location such as a club station, bearing in mind that it is a single operator category. The four categories are based on the most likely situations, which will occur during an emergency or disaster. Another category could be a Multi-Operator Base Station, but until such time as sufficient interest is shown in such a category, it will not be considered.

From Al Akers Provincial Director, Hamnet East Cape.

CYCLE ROAD RACE - 28 OCTOBER 2001

HAMNET has been asked to assist with general and emergency communications for the above event that will run from 06:00 to 13:00 on Sunday 28 October 2001 in the West Rand and surrounding areas.

The event is being organised by Rotary together with a sponsor Westcon (a subsidiary of Datatech) and is aimed at raising funds for charity.

The requirements are for:

1. 1. A control station at the Roodepoort Athletic Stadium (the start and finish points)
2. 2. A lead vehicle at the head of the race
3. 3. 4 stations at water points (these stations can also be mobilised in an emergency)
4. 4. 2 mobile stations to cover the route
5. 5. A sweep vehicle

We are also invited to set up a field station at the stadium to publicise and promote amateur radio.

We will work in conjunction with the race organisers, the various traffic services and a medical team from Flora Clinic. We will also have to be able to communicate with the local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) if the need arises.

Upward of 3000 entries are expected to race over three routes. The first is a short loop, the second a longer one and the main race over 104 kilometres. The main route runs along the N14 and R41 and R28 roads.

A hospitality corner will be available at the end of the event with refreshments to which we are invited.

As it would be nice to work in two man teams per vehicle or marshal point, an invitation is extended to any radio amateur who is available to join the race team. As most of the communications will be via VHF, ZR licensed amateurs are very welcome.

Amateurs in possession of special skills such as first aid certificates (current) are welcome to bring their kit and will be used to assist at any spectator or participant incident when required.

You will need to cater for your own refreshments during the event and extra water on board will never go amiss. Writing tools are a necessity. Provision to mark all official vehicles will be made available at the event.

The sponsors have agreed to make a donation to HAMNET and we thus need to make this event successful whilst also earning much-needed funds.

If you are able to help, contact Francois ZS6BUU at 679-5260 or Jan ZS6ARV at 082 458 1484.

DATABASE - C D DISTRIBUTION

The Hamnet Database is now complete, installed on the League computer and is now being distributed to each Provincial Director. It is very easy to operate and contains various search engines, which will be upgraded to contain more searches in due course.

The responsibility to maintain the database rests with Francois ZS6BUU and updates will be sent on a regular basis or will be posted on the S.A.R.L. website for downloading purposes.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

Apart from listening to the various bulletins, should there be news from your area for the main bulletin, please send your contributions to either jans@netdial.co.za or francois@overflow.co.za.

Contributions are always welcome and it also supplements the Sunday get together on 10,130 and 7,070. It also helps to add some spice to the regular Sunday bulletin.

Bulletin Ends